

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A laser treatment apparatus for irradiating an affected part in the inside of a patient's eye with a treatment laser beam to treat the affected part, while allowing an operator to observe the affected part, including:

treatment beam irradiation means including a first irradiation optical system for focusing the treatment laser beam on the inside of the patient's eye;

aiming beam irradiation means including a second irradiation optical system for delivering an aiming beam into the patient's eye,

the first irradiation optical system and the second irradiation optical system being optically adjusted such that sighting of the treatment laser beam in a direction of an optical axis with respect to the affected part is completed when the aiming beam forms a predetermined spot shape on the affected part in the inside of the patient's eye;

sighting adjustment means for adjusting sighting of the aiming beam in a direction of an optical axis with respect to the affected part to adjust the sighting of the treatment laser beam, the sighting adjustment means including movement means for moving a sighting point of the second irradiation optical system in forward-and-backward directions of the optical axis direction;

image pickup means including an image pickup optical system for imaging an area including the affected part in the inside of the patient's eye;

sighting state detection means for detecting a spot image of the aiming beam from an image picked-up by the image pickup means to detect a sighting state of the aiming beams; and

movement detection means for detecting movement by the movement means;

~~determining determination~~ means for determining a ~~sighting state in the optical axis direction with respect to the affected part~~direction of the optical axis direction in which the sighting point is to be moved based on a result~~results~~ detected by the sighting state detection means and the movement detection means respectively; and

movement control means for controlling the movement means based on the determined direction to complete the sighting.

2. (Previously Presented) The laser treatment apparatus according to claim 1 further including observation means including a display for displaying the image picked up by the image pickup means on the display.

3. (Previously Presented) The laser treatment apparatus according to claim 2 further including display control means for causing the display to display a determination result by the determination means.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The laser treatment apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the display is place-changeable mounted on the apparatus.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The laser treatment apparatus according to claim 1, further including:

~~movement means for moving a sighting point in the optical axis direction with respect to the affected part; and~~ an input switch for inputting a signal for starting automatic sighting, wherein the movement control means for controlling~~controls~~ the movement means to move the sighting point by a predetermined amount in a predetermined direction of the optical axis direction based on an instruction to start~~the input signal for starting the automatic sighting.~~

8. (Currently Amended) The laser treatment apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second irradiation optical system includes an optical system for delivering a plurality of aiming beams which are symmetrical about an optical axis into the patient's eye so that the aiming beams coincide with each other at a focus point of the treatment laser beam, and the ~~determination-sighting state detection~~ means ~~determines-detects~~ the sighting state based on at least one of an overlapping condition of the spot images of the plurality of aiming beams and a size of overlapped spot images.

9. (Currently Amended) The laser treatment apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the second irradiation optical system includes an optical system for delivering the aiming beam into the patient's eye so that the aiming beam focuses on a focus point of the treatment laser beam, and the ~~determination-sighting state detection~~ means ~~determines-detects~~ the sighting state based on one of a spot diameter and a size of the spot image of the aiming beam.

10. (Original) The laser treatment apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the treatment beam irradiation means includes a laser source which emits a YAG laser beam as the treatment laser beam.

11. (New) The laser treatment apparatus according to claim 1, wherein a central axis of the first irradiation optical system is made coaxial with a central axis of the second irradiation optical system.

12. (New) The laser treatment apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the movement means includes lens movement means for moving a lens provided in the second irradiation optical system in the forward-and-backward directions of the optical axis direction, wherein the movement detection means detects movement by the lens movement means, and wherein the movement control means controls the lens movement means based on the determined direction.

13. (New) The laser treatment apparatus according to claim 1,
further including:
an input switch for inputting a signal for starting automatic sighting; and
precluding means for precluding irradiation of the treatment laser
beam to the affected part until the sighting is completed, wherein the signal for starting the
automatic sighting is input even when a trigger signal for irradiating the treatment laser beam
is input.